

SHIRE NEWS



We would like to say a big thank you to everyone once again who celebrated with us at the Toodyay Christmas Street Party on Friday 5 December. Stirling Terrace was humming with festivities – entertainers, rides, stallholders, arts & crafts, food and beverage vendors – and we did our best to create a vibrant Christmas village atmosphere.

We would like to acknowledge and thank all the supporters who made the night possible:

Our Sponsors:

- Community Bank Toodyay and Northam – major sponsor
- Chalice Gonville Project
- Toodyay Op Shop
- Christmas 360

Organisers and Helpers:

- The Shire’s superstar Community Development team – Kristen and Fiona – for their hard work organising and delivering this event.
- Shire’s Infrastructure & Assets crew – for getting the town looking its festive best.
- Shire Rangers – for traffic and incident management support.
- Shire Administration staff – who volunteered to help stallholders with bump-in.
- Shire Library staff – who volunteered by hosting a bookstall to fundraise for

Rhyme Time activities.

- Moodyne Men volunteers – for helping with set up, pack down and traffic support.

Emergency Services – we were very grateful for the presence of Police, St John Ambulance and DFES on the night to keep everyone safe.

Local Businesses – we want to thank our local businesses for your support once again – particularly with the road closures. We know it can be a bit disruptive, but your cooperation and involvement were important to creating the vibrant atmosphere everyone enjoyed on the night.

Community Bauble Project – a special mention goes to all our community groups who participated in the Community Bauble Project. We were blown away by everyone’s enthusiasm and creativity – some of the baubles were absolute masterpieces! Thank you for making this project such a success.

And lastly, congratulations to 5-year-old TDHS student Charlotte Bennett who won the Kids’ Christmas Colouring-In Competition and got to light up the town Christmas tree.

We captured some magical moments from the night, and they are available for viewing on the Shire’s Facebook page.

TOODYAY RAILWAYS A TALE OF TWO LINES

The Newcastle Gaol Museum is preparing to launch a new exhibition celebrating Toodyay’s rich railway history.

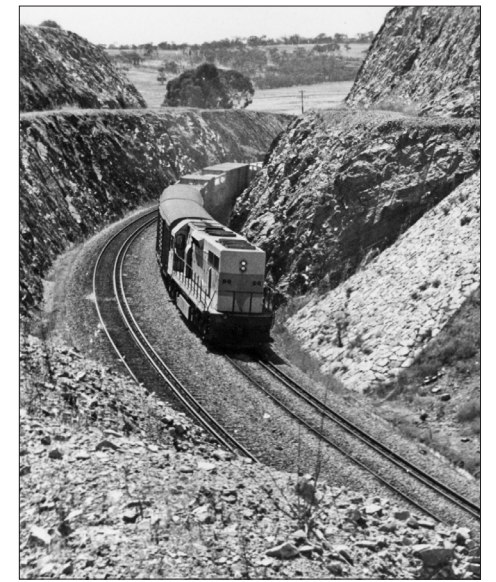
Titled “*Toodyay Railways: A Tale of Two Lines*”, the exhibition launch is being planned for Sunday 26 April and will run for twelve months.

The exhibition has been inspired by the upcoming 60th anniversary in 2026 of the opening of the Standard Gauge railway line, which introduced a new alignment through the Avon Valley. It will explore the significant impact this development had on the Toodyay community, while also revisiting the story of the earlier Narrow Gauge branch line that first arrived in the town in 1887.

As part of the exhibition’s development, the museum is inviting community members to contribute by loaning railway-related objects, photographs, and memorabilia. The museum is also keen to hear personal stories and memories connected to Toodyay’s railway past.

Anyone interested in contributing is encouraged to contact museum curator

Margie between Monday-Wednesday on 9574 9393, or toodyay.museums@toodyay.wa.gov.au, or visit the Toodyay Visitor Centre.



Windmill Hill railway cutting and diesel locomotive with rolling stock – c1960s, Shire of Toodyay heritage collections 2000.67



Steam train crossing the Avon River behind the Toodyay showground in flood c1915, Shire of Toodyay heritage collections 2001.1350

2026/27 COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

Applications for the 2026/27 Community Funding Program are set to open early March (closing early April). More information will be available in next month’s Herald and on all the Shire’s online platforms in the coming weeks.

Save the Date

‘Booked for Love’
Toodyay Library
Friday 13 February
@ 10.00am

Coffee. Cake. Cupid approved.
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Bolgart bowls up good fun events in 2026

Bolgart Community News
Pamela McGill

Australia Day

YERECOIN hosted this year's Australia Day in the Victoria Plains Shire, where about 100 people enjoyed a delicious Australia Day breakfast at the Yerecoin Tennis Club.

Victoria Plains Community Citizen of the Year was Mary-Anne Harvey from the Mogumber community for her never-ending time and effort volunteering.

The Community Group Award was presented to the Yerecoin Progress Association for their outstanding effort organising the Yerecoin Centennial Celebration held in September last year.

Thank you to the Shire of Victoria Plains and the Yerecoin Tennis Club for a well-organised event.

St John - Goomalling and Bolgart

UPCOMING First Aid Course

HLTAID011 - Provide First Aid

Course Type: Accredited

Duration: one day in class and online learning

Price: \$180

When: Friday March 20 from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Where: Goomalling Ambulance Sub Centre, 56 Forrest Street, Goomalling.

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<https://www.stjohnwa.com.au/first-aid-training/first-aid-courses/>

Bolgart Sports Club held the annual Christmas get together to celebrate the festive season.

Wonderful people enjoying the children receiving their gifts from Father Christmas. Much to the delight of the children Father

Christmas arrived in the Community fire Truck.

Bolgart CWA

THE BOLGART CWA and their invited guests enjoyed a lovely three course Christmas lunch at the Bolgart Hotel.

It was a great relaxing and enjoyable time for all those attending.

Bolgart Primary School held their concert and presentation night at the Bolgart Hall in December.

It was very well attended and very enjoyable.

Best of luck to all the students who graduated and are moving on to various schools to start their next step in life.

To all the new students starting at Bolgart Primary, best of luck also.

Bowling News

Bolgart Ladies held their gala day on December 11.

The day was very warm and because of this the games were a reduced format of two before lunch.

This worked well.

All those participating had an enjoyable time with lots of laughter and friendship.

It was lovely that one of our sponsors, Pam from Purslowe Tinetti Funerals, was able to attend and help with the trophy presentations.

Winners: from Northam, Dot Glass, Jenny Becker, Fay Withnell and Lee Eaton, Runners Up: from Cunderdin/Quairading, Vicki Quinn, Donna Hayes, Chris Hadlow and Sharon Richards.

Our ladies had lots of fun for Christmas break on December 18 practising with a bowling arm and bowling the opposite arm you usually use.

We weren't very successful and not too



Father Christmas with Georgie Troup, Chris Somers and their Son Samuel.

many stayed on the actual rink we were on, but loads of laughs.

We shared a lovely lunch and gift giving and an enjoyable time together.

Social bowls were held over three weeks on a Saturday in January.

It was well attended and again lots of fun. Corporate Bowls will start this month.

Golf News

TWO TEAMS of fours representing Bolgart had a lovely day playing in the Vines Festival of Golf on January 6.

We didn't have any winners but (as always) had lots of fun.

Neighbours grill and chill on Oz day

Morangup Progress Association

Daryl Cooper, Chairperson

MORANGUP residents gathered at the community centre for an Australia Day Barbecue lunch organised by the Morangup Progress Association.

Although it was promoted as a BYOE (Bring Your Own Everything) event, many attendees brought sufficient food to share.

This resulted in enough delicacies and delights to satisfy even the biggest appetites.

Delicious salads for the vegetarians, tasty hors d'oeuvres for the epicureans and enough protein (in the form of steaks, sausages, kebabs, and burgers) for the carnivores, were on offer.

At the beginning of the event, the discovery of a wasps' nest near the children's playground threatened to spoil the fun for the children who attended with their parents.

Fortunately, a couple of daring adults managed to remove the nest without getting stung.

All ages enjoyed the day in their preferred way.

Goldilocks weather – not too cold not too hot – contributed to the event continuing long into the afternoon.

Neighbours enjoyed each other's company, swapping stories and generally getting to know each other better.

When the feasting was over, some dog-owning folk returned home with tasty morsels of left-over scraps for their no doubt delighted furry friends.

I'm guessing most of those who attended (this writer included) would not have felt the need to eat much more for the rest of the day.

Disappointingly, the construction of the new family barbecue area at the rear of the community hall is not yet completed.

The event was held at the front of the premises as usual.

However, it is pleasing to report that progress on the project is being made, and next year's event should be able to be held there.



Ladies Bowls Gala Day Winners from Northam L to R Jenny Becker, Lee Eaton, Fay Withnell, Pam Bailey (Purslowe Tinetti Funerals) Dot Glass (front).



CWA Christmas lunch at Bolgart Hotel L to R Doris Martin, Norma Waters.



Australia Day barbecue lunch at Morangup.

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Change of guard still care at heart

Staying in Place Toodyay Districts
Hamish Dobbie, President

CHANGE is in the Air.

In life, I find, there is nothing more certain than change.

As much as we may want things to remain the same, change is inevitable, and so it is with Staying in Place Toodyay Districts (SIPTD).

Our case manager, Charmaine Duri, is stepping down and moving into retirement.

Along with all the various demands of a major retirement move, Charmaine has been busily training Susan Burley in preparation for handover.

Susan has very big shoes to fill.

Charmaine has played a key role in the establishment of this community focused service and has worked tirelessly to ensure its success in delivering services to our elderly community members in need.

The Toodyay aged community has been extremely fortunate to have had Charmaine coordinate the services they critically required.

Her services have enabled them to remain in the safety of their homes, retaining their dignity and connection to community.

Her dedication and commitment will be missed.

Susan has been a local for over twenty years and some may remember her from her prior roles here in Toodyay at the Visitor Centre and Medical Centre.

With Charmaine's departure, we have also been required to move the base of our operations

SIPTD will be moving into an office on Stirling Terrace.

Susan is very happy to be working amongst the community once more and is excited at the prospect of having a centrally located office for clients, potential clients and others to be able to drop in and discuss their needs or learn more about how Staying in Place Toodyay may be able to assist them.

SIPTD has experienced continued growth since its inception in 2024 and we will soon need a second case manager to cope with the ever-increasing number of clients.

We will be seeking a special person.

Someone who has a talent for administration, has empathy for our diverse, ageing clients, and can handle the unexpected.

Ideally lives in or near Toodyay.

The role would ideally suit a stay-at-home mum/dad or a semi-retired /retired person.

The role can boost your income or supplement your pension.

Choose your hours of work and days.

If you think that you are that person, be ready when the call comes.

Due to retirement and moving out of the area SIPTD is also looking to boosting the committee numbers.

Please contact me if you have the time, commitment and willingness to support the

organisation by joining the committee.

Your community needs your support.

SIPTD is different from other organisations as it is community-based and provides services to local people who have home care packages, using locally based contractors.

Our clients appreciate that contractors may have previously been known to them or may be the son or daughter of old friends.

This helps boost the feeling that they are still part of the local community even though their mobility issues restrict their ability to leave their home.

In the hot weather we are experiencing currently it's important to watch over the elderly and frail in our community.

It's all our responsibility to ensure that our neighbours are safe and well.

All our clients have a story to tell, a sense of humour, and a wealth of worldly experience.

Our contractors enjoy providing services for them whilst learning from their many stories.

These services include domestic support, gardening, transport and organising meals.

My meetings with SIPTD clients have all been positive

I have never come away from one without a smile on my face.

I hope that after I left, they too had a smile.

If you think you or your partner may be eligible for a Home Care Package, or if you are interested in becoming a support worker or part of the SIPTD team, then please

contact:

Susan Burley, Case Manager
Staying In Place Toodyay Districts
Phone: 0494 085 790

Email:-

casemanager@stayinginplacetoodyay.org.au

Web: <http://stayinginplacetoodyay.org.au>

Facebook: Staying In Place – Toodyay



Charmaine Duri and Susan Burley.

More local care and support for the new year

David Miller

TOODYAY Locals Care (TLC) had a very busy 2025.

It was a rewarding year, and it looks like it will be even bigger in 2026.

Last year was one of forming partnerships.

Two of those are with Woolworths Northam and Second Bite which is coordinated by dedicated staff at Saint Josephs Parish in Northam.

Our team members pick up food on Mondays and stock up the fridges at 20 Fiennes Street.

Along with the meals we cook, TLC can now provide more food for those who need it.

There is a downside to having an abundance of food and an 'open fridge policy'.

Some people take more food than others

and sometimes more than they can use.

We are going to trial a system that will make access to food equitable for everyone.

From Monday February 9, we will put together food boxes.

These will be available for pick up from the pavilion at the showgrounds between 1.30pm and 3pm on Monday afternoons.

We need those who would like to collect a box of food to register with us.

If you, or someone you know, could use a box please contact Dave on 0418 919 094 or Roz on 0427 744 352 by text.

Details of those who reach out to us will be handled with strict confidence.

We only need this information to know how many boxes to make up.

There will always be food available at 20 Fiennes Street as well.

The Christmas Long Table Lunch was another great success.

The numbers were down on previous years, the fact that it was stinking hot probably had something to do with it.

Those who attended enjoyed great food and each other's company.

We must thank our generous sponsors and donors Toodyay Glass, Toodyay Hardware and Farm Global Seafoods and the many

others who donated generously.

We will do it all again this year.

We can always use your help with growing the bank balance.

If you can donate, please make a deposit to the TLC Bendigo Bank Account (BSB:633000 Acc#:172 688 626)

If you require a receipt for tax purposes, please text Jacquie on 0427 147 548 with your email address.



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All members, past and present, warmly invited

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Tickets by QR Code by 1 March 2026
www.northamcountryclub.com
Enquiry Kathy Saunders 0419 025 917

DEMERSAL FISHING RECOVERY REFORMS

For future generations



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR WA'S FISHING COMMUNITY

To help recover stocks of spawning dhufish, pink snapper, and red emperor, urgent action is needed with stronger measures up and down our coast.

The recovery closure for boat-based recreational demersal fishing in the West Coast Zone (Kalbarri to Augusta) will be extended until Spring 2027.

Commercial demersal fishing in this zone will end permanently, and charter fishing will not be permitted between Lancelin and Mandurah.

Recreational and commercial fishing for demersals will remain open in all other regions with additional management measures introduced.

WHAT DO THE REFORMS MEAN?

After the recovery period, the West Coast Zone will become an **exclusive** recreational fishing zone, meaning more fish in the water and a stronger future for WA's recreational fishing community.

CAN I STILL GO FISHING?

Yes. Recreational fishing for other fish species like Mahi Mahi, Mackerel, Yellowtail Kingfish and Tuna is still permitted.

Everyone needs to play their part for WA's future generations of fishers.



These fish are at **risk**



🔍 Search **Fishing Futures WA**



Men, merriment and a shed load of fun

Toodyay Men's Shed.
Barry Keens

LAST year finished with a Christmas dinner at the shed attended by members, families and Toodyay shire guests: Aaron Bowman, Mick McKeown and Vanessa Crispe.

Di Roberts coordinated the food and Barbara Smith decorated and prepared tables, she also provided quizzes during the evening and a great time was had by all.

During the past year we welcomed four new members, who have settled in well and added value to the shed.

Many projects were completed for the Toodyay Shire and community members.

We hope to continue the same way this year.

Three members of the shed, Philip Roberts, Jeffery Roberts and Barry Keens were nominated by community members for the Australia Day Community Citizen of the Year Award 2026, our Chairman, Barry Keens, received the award.

Each year Men's Shed Australia gives awards to men's sheds around Australia and Toodyay has been nominated for two awards: The Green Shed and Community Impact Awards. These awards will be made at the national shed gathering at Brisbane in March.

The Shed is open from 08.30 to noon Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

Visitors and prospective new members are always welcome.

"Smoko" is at 10am with tea, coffee and cake.

Our meeting room, capacity is 60 and our commercial kitchen is available for hire.

For all enquiries, please contact our secretary on 0499 403 830.

Woodturners gear up for a big show

Avon Wood Turners
Hamish Dobie

THAT hackneyed expression "hot enough for ya?" has been used a lot since the new year.

Unfortunately, attempts to keep the woodturners shed cool have had mixed results, with both roller doors open and fans going full blast.

Although the intense heat is having an adverse effect on our wood stocks, it hasn't put our members off.

Turning has continued unabated, with high turnouts for each session.

We do need more quality wood.

If you have some wood hidden away that you think might be useful to the woodturners, please give me a call or send an email to me on the numbers below.

Avon Woodturners Club is a member of the Western Australian Woodturning Association (WAWA) and every two years we are required to hold a workshop in Toodyay, where members from other associated clubs attend.

This is a big deal for the club and we are busily getting organised for the event.

This event will be held in the Memorial Hall on March 21 and it will kick off at 9am, with an expected attendance of approximately 100.

Many of the attendees come by caravan and stay over the weekend, spending money in local businesses, so the event has benefits for the whole town.

This workshop is an all-day event, and there are demonstrators showing woodturning techniques, competitions, displays of woodturning and booths selling all types of equipment.

So, if you see a lot of strange faces around town that day all talking about wood, you'll now know why.

Our membership numbers have continued to grow throughout 2025, and we expect this to continue in 2026.

The club's equipment also continues to grow to meet the increased needs and, at the day of writing this article, I understand we have the opportunity for more.

Tea, coffee, cake and biscuits are always

available at break time, so feel free to come along, have a cuppa and a chat, and see for yourself what we do in the shed.

If you have an interest in joining the club, the Avon Woodturners are located in Shed 1, at the Community Depot at the end of

Railway Rd in Toodyay.

We are there on Wednesdays and Sundays from 9 am until noon.

For more information, please email me on hamishd2701@gmail.com, or call 0423 115 204.



Some examples of the quality wood turning.

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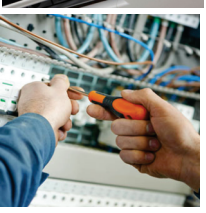
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Toodyay Dental Clinic



As we welcome 2026, the team at Toodyay Dental Clinic would like to extend our warmest wishes to every member of our wonderful community. We hope you all enjoyed a joyful Christmas surrounded by family, friends, and plenty of festive cheer. May the new year bring happiness, good health, and many great moments to you and your loved ones.

This year also marks a special milestone for us — celebrating two years under new management. We are incredibly grateful for the trust and support the community has shown us over this time. It has been our privilege to care for the oral health of families throughout Toodyay and the surrounding areas, and we remain committed to providing high-quality, friendly, and reliable dental care for many years to come.

At Toodyay Dental Clinic, our focus has always been on creating a welcoming environment, offering modern dental services, and ensuring every patient feels comfortable and cared for during their visit. Whether you're coming in for your regular check-up and clean, restorative treatments, or simply seeking advice, our team is here to help you maintain a healthy and confident smile.

We look forward to continuing to serve the community throughout 2026 and beyond. Thank you once again for your ongoing support — it truly means the world to us.



08 9574 2333

toodyaydentalclinic@outlook.com

94 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay WA 6566

Help for online gambling addiction

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

ONLINE gambling can be fun. It can also be addictive. What starts up as being a harmless online flutter can end up in bankruptcy, divorce and suicide.

Online betting organisations design their gambling facilities to appeal as strongly as possible to the pleasure centres in your brain. All betting organisations ultimately rely on obtaining your money. That is how they make a profit.

Any winnings that you make in the short term always become losses in the long term. Betting organisations ensure that you can never ultimately recover your money. Purely, online gambling is driven by computer software. This excludes bets on racing.

That software can be adjusted to give you small gains when you first join a betting organisation and readjusted to ensure significant losses afterwards. For anybody spiralling into the whirlpool of online gambling, help is available. bit.ly/4biHON1 is a good place to start.

Wearable tech for personal protection

Safer Toodyay
Desrae Clarke

THE WEARING of a watch alarm could be lifesaving should help be needed for an unexpected event, such as a fall or loss of way.

The watch alarm detects falls and automatically alerts the contacts you have on record in the case of a fall.

The watch alarm also has the position of the fall, or loss of way, on GPS to alert your contact/s as to the area of concern.

An added bonus is that the watch alarm is waterproof so it can be worn while showering.

There are several watch alarm products photographed and described on the Internet with more narrow bands available for ladies together with a range of coloured bands; prices vary.

To report concerns, please use the following safety contacts:
 Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000
 Police: 131 444
 Toodyay Police: 9574 9555
 Graffiti: 1800 442 255

Hearing the funny side

Liz Hughes

BEING hard of hearing or wearing hearing aids can be difficult and frustrating. Perhaps if we share a chuckle in the face of the struggle and frustration it might make things easier.

See if these jokes can give you a chuckle...

MR SMITH suspects his wife is hard of hearing. He decides to test this.

As his wife is chopping vegetables in the kitchen, he stands two metres behind her and says softly, "Honey, what's for dinner?"

There is no response.

He moves a step closer and asks more loudly, "Honey, what's for dinner?"

She keeps chopping vegetables

He steps even closer, raises his voice and says, "Honey, what's for dinner?"

Hearing nothing, he starts to step even closer when she turns around and says, "Dear, I said 'chicken and salad' three times."

JIM WENT to his audiologist and got the latest, greatest, newest advanced technology hearing aids.

The audiologist set up a follow-up appointment for two weeks.

Two weeks later Jim came back.

The audiologist asked, "How do you like the new hearing aids?"

Jim responded, "They are fantastic, light

years ahead of my last pair," he said.

"I can hear every word, even in noisy situations."

The audiologist said I'll bet your family is happy too.

Jim said, "I haven't told them yet, but I've changed my will three times."

THREE old men are walking down the street. One of them stumbles a little and, to cover his clumsiness, says, "Windy today, ain't it?"

The next guy ponders this assertion and replies, "No, it's Thursday."

The third one perks right up and exclaims, "So am I. Let's stop for a beer."

Q: Why do our new hearing aid models have the longest battery lifetime in the market?
 A: Because they are always in the drawer.

If you would like a little spice in your life, come and join us at the Toodyay Library each Thursday 9.30am to 11am for a fun time learning sign language.

We tell stories, socialise and have a lot of laughs.

If sign language is not your thing, come along for the laughs – we are a happy bunch.

Contacts:
 Sandy 0427 744 721
 Liz 9574 2020
 Sylvia 0400 476 527




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WHERE AND WHEN

ART & CRAFT / HOBBIES / HISTORY

Arts Toodyay

Fourth Monday of each month from 5.30pm at the Toodyay Youth Hall (Town Oval). Contact secretary.arts.j2@gmail.com.

Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Association

Third Saturday Old Engineer's Quarters next to Northam Railway Museum, Fitzgerald St Northam 10.30am. 9622 5932.

Avon Woodturners Group

Every Sunday and Wednesday, Toodyay Junction Railway Parade 9am-noon. Hamish Dobie 0423 115 204.

Morangup Social Craft Group

First and third Tuesday monthly, Morangup Community Hall 10am-12:30pm

Ragbags Quilting Group

First & third Wednesday monthly, St Stephen's Hall 10am-2.30pm. 9574 4503. Bring your lunch.

The Crooked Needle

Friday morning craft \$3.50 CWA Hall, Stirling Terrace 9.30am-noon. Jan 0407 083 079, Annette 9574 2332.

Toodyay Historical Society

Third Wednesday monthly (not Jan) St Stephen's Church Hall, Stirling Tce 7pm. Drummond House open Saturday 10am-noon (next to Bendigo Bank, Stirling Tce). Research Centre open by appt. Beth Frayne 9574 5971, secretary.2j.ths@gmail.com, www.toodyayhistoricalsociety.org.au

Toodyay Miniature Railway

Easter Saturday, thereafter first and third Sunday monthly until Nov. Mark, President 0424 281 770

Toodyay Spinners

Every Wednesday; first and third Saturday monthly Parker's Cottage, Showgrounds 9am to noon. Gail Williams 9622 3411.

Toodyay Theatre Group

David Mitchell 0400 283 425.

CHURCHES

Anglican Church

Sundays St Stephen's Church 10am.

Catholic Church

Saturday Vigil 5pm. Wednesday Adoration 4.20pm, Benediction 4.50pm, Mass 5pm. northam@perthcatholic.org.au 9622 5411.

Bakers Hill Fellowship

Sundays Bakers Hill Primary School Music Room 10am. Pastor Peter Booth 0417 945 725.

Toodyay Baptist Church

Sundays 18 Stirling Tce 10.30am. Joy 0432 470 771.

Uniting Church

St Stephen's Church 10am.

EDUCATION / PLAYGROUPS

Bizzy Bees

Pre-kindy for 3-year-olds. Toodyay DHS. Jessica Donovan 0407 128 105.

Toodyay District High School P&C

Tuesday of Week 5 each term TDHS staff room 5.30pm. 'Toodyay DHS P&C' on Facebook, write to Toodyay District High School P&C at PO Box 1624, Toodyay WA 6566. email pandctoodyaydhs@gmail.com.

Toodyay Playgroup

Tuesdays, Thursdays 9-11am. Wednesdays Bubs Play 10am-noon. Jessica Donovan 0407 128 105.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Bejoording VBFB

First Tuesday monthly 6pm, Bejoording Fire Shed Lawrence 0447 253 320, Richard 0414 250 484.

Coondle-Nunile VBFB

Meet every Friday 5pm at the Coondle Fire Shed.

Morangup VBFB

Third Saturday of the month, 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup 5.30pm. Sharon Gamble or secretarymvbfb@gmail.com.

St John Morangup Sub Centre

Volunteering, first aid kits, Benefit Fund memberships, 48 Wallaby Way, Morangup. Monday and Wednesday 8am-4pm. 0418 741 971

St John Toodyay Sub Centre

Volunteering, first aid kits and refills, Benefit Fund memberships, general enquiries, 120B Stirling Terrace. 9574 2390. Emergency call 000.

Toodyay Central VBFB

Second Tuesday monthly Toodyay Fire and Emergency Services Centre 7pm.

Toodyay State Emergency Service

Fourth Tuesday monthly 3 Wallaby Way Morangup. Jeff Venn 0438 490 331 toodyayseslocalmanager@gmail.com.

Toodyay Volunteer Fire and Rescue

First Monday monthly, Toodyay Fire and Emergency Services Centre 7.30pm.

ENVIRONMENT

Avon Valley Environmental Society

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Centre, 269 Fitzgerald St, Northam. Third Friday monthly, noon. Janet Wilkinson 9574 5947.

Earth Solutions - Avon Valley

Second Tuesday monthly (not Jan) Old Northam Railway Station, 425 Fitzgerald St Northam 6pm. Karen Ducat 0438 223 886.

Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance

Julimarforest@gmail.com.

Marsupial Mamas and Pappas

Wildlife Rescue 0467 964 872.

Safe and Scenic Toodyay Road

Andrew St John. sastr.com.au.

Toodyay Friends of the River

Second Sunday monthly or following Monday, 9am (winter); 8am (summer). See TFOR noticeboard outside Drummond House. Email info@toodyayfor.org.au.

Toodyay Garden Club

First Thursday monthly, 10am. Dale D'Antoine President 0448 611 292. Email toodyaygardenclub@gmail.com for venue or Stephanie Bain 0429 888 314.

Toodyay Naturalists' Club

Third Saturday monthly. 9574 5574, secretary@toodyaynats.org.au. Website www.toodyaynats.org.au.

Toodyay Seed Group

Toodyay Junction, opposite Shire depot. Email bethan_lloyd8@msn.com.

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Toodyay Agricultural Show

www.toodyayagsociety.com.au

Toodyay Farmers Market

Third Sunday monthly, 0429 984 482, toodyayfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Toodyay Moondyne Festival

moondynecommittee@gmail.com.

HEALTH

Australian Breastfeeding Association

Second and fourth Tuesday monthly,

3 Elizabeth Place Northam 10am-noon.

Third Tuesday monthly Toodyay Playgroup noon-2pm. Louise 9574 0229.

Child Health Clinic

Tuesdays & Wednesdays. Bree Byfield. 9621 0100

Forget-Me-Not Memory Café

Second Tuesday monthly, Toodyay Bakery. 10am-noon.

Toodyay Medical Centre

Stirling Terrace. Monday-Friday 9am-4pm. 9545 7101. Pathology Mon-Fri 9am-1pm.

Toodyay Men's Shed

Monday, Thursday, Saturday Harper Rd 8.30am-noon. Secretary 0499 403 830.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Liz Boston, JP

lizboston3160@gmail.com, 0428 742 349. Leave message if no answer.

Jacquie Lacy, JP

januaryjac@gmail.com. 0429 959 179.

Jeff Roberts, JP

roberts138@bigpond.com. 0499 403 830.

Susan Pearce, JP

susanpearce740@outlook.com. 0427 957 425.

Max Heath, JP

0400 206 929.

MUSIC

Toodyay Community Singers

Thursdays CWA Hall, Stirling Terrace Rehearsals 5pm - 6pm Anne-Marie Millar 0408 364 918.

Toodyay Music Club

Second Saturday monthly, CWA Hall 1pm. Joe 0400 862 694.

SENIORS

Autumn Club

Wednesdays, Toodyay Sports Pavilion 1-4pm. Glenyce Bosnjak 9574 4587.

Butterfly Cottages Association

Secretary: Cheryl-Jean. Contact email butterfly2J@gmail.com.

Fitness and Fun for the Over 55s

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays Youth Hall, Showgrounds 9am.

Ida's Hideaway

Saturdays Toodyay Baptist Church, Stirling Terrace 1-4pm. Ann Sinclair 0407 775 459.

Silver Chain Social Centre

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays Toodyay Community Centre 78 Stirling Tce. 1300 650 803.

Staying in Place Toodyay Districts

Aged Care Support Contact Case Manager: 0494 085 790

SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Bejoording Community Group

Wednesdays Bejoording Community Centre Bejoording Rd 6pm.

Barry Grey, President 0428 742 149.

Country Women's Association

General meetings fourth Thursday monthly at 1pm, coffee mornings second Thursday monthly, 10am CWA Hall. Bookings Margot Watkins 0405 067 591 or 9574 2823.

Moondyne Men

Mondays & Thursdays CRC, 67 Stirling Terrace 8-10.30am. Breakfast 1st Saturday monthly.

Colin Bird, Secretary 0424 195 003.

Morangup Progress Association

Chair Daryl Cooper chair@morangupmpa.com.au. www.morangupmpa.com.au.

RSL Toodyay Sub-Branch

Meetings at RSL shed, Clinton Street 2nd

Saturday every month between February and November, at 1pm. Secretary Max Howard 0475 724 233 email: toodyayrsl@gmail.com.

Safer Toodyay Inc

Meetings announced in Herald column. 9574 5574.

Toodyay Lions Club

First Tuesday of the month Toodyay Hotel. Second Tuesday Social meeting. Heather McNamara, Secretary 0436 019 991. Email toodyay.wa@lions.org.au

Toodyay Masonic Lodge

Fourth Thursday monthly, Masonic Hall Finennes St 7.30pm. Mick Tock, 9622 8990

Toodyay Red Cross

Second Monday Feb, May, Aug, Nov Anglican Hall 1.30pm.

Toodyay RoadWise Committee

Second Wednesday monthly, Community Resource Centre 9.30am. Bob Neville 0419 853 160.

SPORT

Avon Valley Adult Riding Club

Fourth Saturday monthly Feb-Nov, Northam. Tina 0499 030 177.

Avon Valley Shotokan Karate Club

Wednesdays Youth Hall, Showgrounds. Peewees 3.45-4.30pm; Juniors 4.30-5.30pm; Seniors 6-7.30pm. avonvalleyshotokan@gmail.com

Mortlock Pony Club

First Sunday Feb-Nov, Goomalling. Tanzi 0427 859 493.

Toodyay Bowling Club

Ladies Thursdays 8.30am. Liz Sullivan 0429 311 256.

Men Fridays 3pm. Andrew Watson 0418 269 773

Mixed Winter Bowls Thursday 12.30pm.

Liz Sullivan. All welcome.

Toodyay Golf Club

Mixed comp Sundays noon; Ladies Wednesdays 1.30pm. Roma: 9574 5534.

Men's scroungers Thursdays 2pm.

Bruce 0417 028 089.

Toodyay Soccer Club

Mondays 4-5.30pm terms 2-3, ages 5-15yrs. toodyaysoccer@gmail.com.

Toodyay Tennis Club

Toodyay Recreation Centre, Tuesday social 9am unless raining, Wednesday night social 6.30pm October - April, Friday Night Community Tennis - October - November (Facebook for updates) or community court hire play. tennis.com.au Facebook @toodyaytennisclub. Contact Jenny Ash Secretary 0417497972.

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Combo Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Exposures
- 7. Full range
- 8. Non-clergy
- 11. Creepers
- 12. Endured
- 14. Sketched
- 16. Girl's name
- 19. Scrape off
- 22. Supply with fuel
- 24. One who obtains
- 25. Detested
- 26. Almost

DOWN

- 1. Determined
- 2. A taste
- 3. A flower
- 4. Ointment
- 5. Keep in check
- 6. Speaks
- 9. Helped
- 10. Name
- 13. Not asleep
- 15. NZ flower
- 17. Of the mind
- 18. Keenly
- 20. Brimless cap
- 21. Off the cuff (2,3)
- 22. Cease
- 23. Mallow plant

Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- 1. Revelations about single disco lures
- 7. Complete scale with morning in alimentary canal
- 8. Reclined round article not relating to the church
- 11. Creeping plants in divine show
- 12. Was unexhausted in crooked deals about original tenancy
- 14. Portrayed medical man with opposite directions
- 16. Make them mad keeping a girl
- 19. Scratch a new growth on the face
- 22. Single draw on a cigarette to stir up a fire
- 24. One who acquires part of stake requisitioned
- 25. Disliked intensely top cover on reporter
- 26. Virtually in a matter-of-fact manner

DOWN

- 1. Followed in determined way
- 2. Is finally enough for a taste
- 3. Allotted portion on us in plant
- 4. Keep in reserve around length of healing concoction
- 5. More inside part of a bride
- 6. Pronounces leaders share all your symptoms
- 9. Helped one before died out
- 10. Expression used in time in office
- 13. Quite alert in a ceremony for the dead
- 15. Deserter with a plant in New Zealand
- 17. Fellows talk endlessly of the mind
- 18. Diva turned and lay heartlessly in a greedy manner
- 20. Type of cap could be returned shortly
- 21. Bad hockey player kept for this special purpose (2,3)
- 22. Refrain from reversing containers
- 23. Plant in a chook raffle

Sudoku

Sudoku is based on the logical placement of numbers. Sudoku doesn't require any calculation nor special math skills; all that is needed are brains and concentration. Every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine columns, nine rows and nine 3x3 boxes.

Easy

Hard

CrossCode

Crosscode is a logic puzzle. Each letter is a number. Begin by guessing the first word and placing the additional letters into the crosscode. Keep guessing words/letters until completed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					I							
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		T					D					

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Solutions

Sudoku Easy Solution

Sudoku Hard Solution

Crosscode Solution

Combo Solution

ENVIRONMENT

A local lizard with lightning speed

Herpetofauna

Desrae Clarke

THE BLACK-TAILED monitor is commonly called the Racehorse Goanna.

If it is moving along at a leisurely pace, it has its fine tail curled over its back.

However, if disturbed, it drops its tail and moves at a lightning pace; consequently, the common name of Racehorse Goanna.

The species is commonly found within the Shire of Toodyay often living in roofs of buildings and rocky crevices, hollow logs or holes in the ground.

It is a slender creature of an adult length of approximately 80cms with a ground colouring of dark grey to black.

Young creatures are marked with yellowish-cream spots with a darkened centre, known as ocelli.

The snout is slender with noticeable nostrils; obvious ear holes are placed back from the eyes.

It has a long slender and deeply forked tongue that plays a part in its sense of smell.

The flicking movements of the tongue collect and transfer air-borne particles to Jacobson's Organ, in the roof of the mouth, for the particles to be analysed.

Small birds and lizards, as well as eggs and insects, frogs and carrion are all foods for this species.

It has been observed undulating its tail through litter to flush smaller creatures as prey.

Monitors have a loose skin that differs in structure from other reptiles.

Their scales lie alongside each other and do not overlap.

Its claws are long and extremely strong to aid in digging or climbing trees, fence posts and walls as can be seen by the attached photo.

It is an egg-laying (oviparous) animal depositing its leathery-shelled eggs in a termite nest or in a mound of soil.

It may lay up to 35 eggs in a clutch.

There have been several reports of people about to shift a mound of soil to find it is the incubating medium for a clutch of eggs.

A wonderful reference is found in 'Australia's Reptiles - A Photographic Reference to the Terrestrial Reptiles of Australia', authored by Stephen K Wilson and David G Knowles.

The volume has excellent photographs on the Varanidae family that consists of 30 lizards found from Africa, through Asia and the Indo-Papuan Archipelago, to Australia.

The Indonesian Komodo Dragon and the largest lizard in Australia, the Perentie, are both members of this family.

The Toodyay Naturalists' Club welcomes reports of all creatures, plants and fungi.

We will endeavour to assist with any queries you may have.

Email: secretary@toodyaynats.org.au or call 9574 5574.



Black Tailed monitor.
Photo by Wayne Clarke.

Meeting the mysterious Nightjar

Bird of the Month

Desrae Clarke

ALTHOUGH the Australian Owlet-Nightjar is stated as widespread and a relatively common nocturnal bird, it is rarely observed.

It is a small bird, between 20 to 25cms in length, with the female slightly larger than the male.

Its colouring is of excellent camouflage.

The variable upper parts are a darkish grey and finely speckled and softly barred white.

It has cat-like whiskers (called vibrissae) projecting up from its lore, which is the small area of skin between base of the tiny but broad, dusky-coloured bill.

It has huge eyes.

Its head has a central black stripe together with a black stripe over each eye meeting at the back of the neck where they fuse into a pale grey to white collar.

Underparts are white with grey bars extending through the breast and into the throat area.

The flight feathers, the longest wing feathers, are grey spotted with rufous.

The wings are shorter than the tail.

The tail feathers are barred grey and rufous, and the feet are pinkish-grey feet with the claws a dusky colour.

The Nightjar prey consists of insects such as moths, beetles, spiders, ants, grasshoppers and other small invertebrates.

It hunts a few hours after sundown and the last few hours before sunrise.

This small nocturnal bird, which mates for life, breeds between August and December.

The building of a nest, consisting of green eucalypt leaves placed in a tree hollow, stump or a fencepost, is shared by the pair with three to five white eggs laid over a couple of nights and incubated by both parents over a period of nearly four weeks.

The young fledge, having enough feathers to fly, in twenty to thirty days after which they stay with their parents for several months.

The Nightjar has a high-pitched chirring voice that is heard all year round.

An item of interest is that the bird has a good knowledge of all the hollows within its home range.

It will dart directly into one, or other, when disturbed.

It stays in the same locality throughout the year.

A Toodyay Nat's Club member has just found a dead Nightjar in the vicinity of her home.

A tree-mendous year ahead

Toodyay Naturalists Club

Greg Warburton

THE TOODYAY Naturalists' Club will commence its program for 2026 on Saturday February 21 with a 'member's night'.

The format will be bring along three of your favourite natural history photos for display and discussion.

This will also be a chance for members to catch up on everyone's news after the break.

An exciting program has been laid out for this year with various keynote speakers and outings to look forward to.

The theme for the year will be the protection of the Julimar Forest.

Appropriately, on March 7 we will conduct a Clean Up Australia Day event with a litter pick up and rubbish removal excursion in Julimar Forest.

Sadly, the high use of this conservation area for off-road vehicles and illegal camping has seen increasing littering and dumping.

Later in the month Sean Hefferon, former editor of *The Toodyay Herald*, will speak to members about the Toodyay Community Fund a project he is spearheading that promises exciting benefits for our town.

Members extend their sympathy and condolences to Mel Adams the secretary of our subgroup the Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance (JCAFA) for her recent loss.

If you have any enquiries about the Toodyay Naturalists' Club, please phone Greg on 0429 009 425 or visit our website where you can access the full year's program and other up to date *Nats News*.
Visit: toodyaynats.org.au

It had no sign of injury.

Perhaps it had hit a window chasing a moth or suchlike.

I have only ever seen one of these small birds in the wild with it pointed out by a knowledgeable 'birder'.

It was peering out of a small hole in a tree trunk in York gum woodland with its noticeably enormous eyes.

A second bird I have seen was, unfortunately, a roadkill.

Like night birds such as the Boobook Owl

and Tawny Frogmouth, the Nightjar will fly towards a beam of light from vehicles to catch moths, often with dire results.

If you are fortunate enough to see or photograph one of these delightful little creatures, the Toodyay Naturalists' Club would be pleased to hear from you to record your observation.

Please phone 9574 55474 or email secretary@toodyaynats.com.au

A photograph is invaluable for correct identification.



Owlet Nightjar, Photo of the courtesy of Rob Boase.

BAITING TO PROTECT NATIVE WILDLIFE

Under the Parks and Wildlife Service's *Western Shield* program, baiting to control foxes and feral cats occurs on more than three million hectares of conservation lands in Western Australia.

The baits used are toxic to introduced animals but not to native animals which have an evolved tolerance to the active compound (1080). All baited areas are signposted.

Baiting occurs on a regular and ongoing basis to protect endangered native animals including the numbat, western ground parrot and western swamp tortoise.



Attention pet owners: these baits will kill domestic dogs and cats. Baited areas must be considered dangerous for pet dogs and cats at all times.

For more information and maps on areas baited under *Western Shield* visit dbca.wa.gov.au/westernshield or contact your local Parks and Wildlife Service district office.



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



ENVIRONMENT

Trailblazers keeping our walking paths clear

Toodyay Friends of the River
Greg Warburton

THE TOODYAY Friends of the River wasted no time getting on the front foot for 2026 with a committee meeting taking place on Sunday January 25.

The program for the new year is in place with various activities and projects listed for the year.

Before Christmas last year Kai Shanks and I compiled the walk tracks with a concerted maintenance program.

This included pole sawing, whipper snipping, slashing and trimming of overhanging vegetation.

Walkers can now easily and safely traverse the six kilometre Bilya River Walk Trail, the

Duidgee Park to Caravan Park Walk, the West Toodyay Wander and the network of walk tracks in Pelham Reserve.

The length of these marked and sign-posted walk tracks totals some 15 kilometres.

The closing of the Newcastle Park foot bridge, however, has blocked the town section river walk circuits and it has been a real challenge for our popular, weekly parkrun event.

We have been told it could be a very long time before the footbridge is open again.

I'd like to express a special thankyou to Damian Davis the "lord commander" of Toodyay Hardware and Farm for the generous donation of a heavy-duty Makita battery hedge trimmer.

This fine piece of equipment is valued at \$350 and it will make our walk track maintenance so much easier and efficient.

Damo said he enjoyed the walk track along the river and wanted to contribute to its upkeep.

You have certainly done that Damo. Thank you again from TFOR and on behalf of the many walkers who regularly use the track(s).

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 15 with a meeting at 10am in Duidgee Park.

We will discuss ideas that might help with the promotion and marketing of TFOR going forward.

Any enquiries phone Greg 0429009425 or visit the website toodyayfor.org.au



Damo presenting the TFOR project officer with donated hedger.

HEALTH

Making sense of diabetes

Warrior Wellbeing
Making Sense of Diabetes

THE CELLS in our bodies, such as those found in our muscles, need energy to grow and do what they do.

One source of energy starts when we eat carbohydrate rich food such as bread, pasta, rice, potatoes, fruit, milk and yoghurt.

In a normal situation these foods are broken down in our digestive system into glucose, a sugar.

This sugar is what is needed by the cells, but it can't get into them without a special key, insulin.

Insulin is a hormone produced in the pancreas and its job is to regulate the amount of glucose in the blood.

In a person who has diabetes, one of two things happens.

Either they do not produce enough or any insulin to regulate the amount of glucose (Type 1), or their body's cells don't respond to the insulin key (Type 2).

The result for both these events is the same: there is a back-up of glucose in the bloodstream (causing high blood sugar).

If our cells aren't getting the energy they need then we will naturally feel tired and rundown.

Prolonged high blood sugar can cause serious complications resulting in damage to the organs of our body, the heart, kidneys, nervous system and eyes.

Type 1 is the least common form of diabetes and characterised by an early and sudden onset usually before the age of 20.

In this instance a person's immune system destroys the cells in the pancreas that create insulin.

As a result, these people need to inject

insulin regularly to supplement the deficiency.

Type 2 is the most common form (above 80 percent) and usually it's a late gradual onset affecting adults.

People with this condition produce enough insulin but their cells are not responsive and can't take up the glucose.

There is usually a genetic link to the development of this form of diabetes, but there is also a strong link with unhealthy lifestyle factors such as poor diet, smoking and being overweight (having a beer gut) and being inactive.

Medication is available to treat this form of diabetes alongside recommended lifestyle changes.

We always encourage blokes to go and see their GP if they fit into any of the above categories or have a family history of diabetes.

This is especially important if they are experiencing any of the common symptoms of diabetes including constant thirst and peeing a lot, feeling run down a lot of the time, headaches, blurred vision and cuts that take ages to heal properly.

Sometimes these symptoms can be quite mild in people who are in the early stages of developing diabetes (prediabetes).

If you have a family history of diabetes or concerns about any of the above symptoms don't wait; go and chat with your GP about having your blood sugar checked.

It could save you a lot of grief down the track.

Contact The Regional Men's Health Initiative on 6314 1436.
Email: menshealth@4blok.com.au

Better health is just a phone call away

A FREE health coaching service is now available so if being healthier is on your list of new year's resolutions, help is just a phone call away.

The free telephone coaching program is funded by the Western Australian health department and it's available to adults living in rural WA.

Participants can access up to 10 phone appointments with qualified health professionals, who can help them focus on achievable, practical lifestyle changes.

The program comes in response to the state's health statistics that reveal more than one in three adults is overweight and almost 40 per cent live with obesity.

Over 20 per cent of adults have been diagnosed with a mental health condition, and health issues including cholesterol, high blood pressure, and heart disease remain common.

Lifestyle factors, including smoking, poor diet, and excessive alcohol use all take their toll.

Adults from anywhere in WA are encouraged to join the program and take steps towards better health, no matter what their starting point is.

To find out more, call 1300 822 953 or visit: betterhealthcompany.org



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Big hearts for little hearts this February

EVERY day in Australia, eight babies are born with a childhood-onset heart disease (CoHD)

This February HeartKids is calling on Australians to help support these children and their families through its annual Sweethearts for HeartKids campaign.

The campaign runs throughout Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week (7-14 February) and leads into Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day on 14 February.

Congenital heart disease is the most common congenital condition in Australia.

It impacts families from birth and often requires lifelong care.

Sweethearts for HeartKids encourages Australians to donate eight dollars for the eight babies diagnosed each day.

The campaign calls for the community to come together and show what's possible through collective action, helping provide vital support to more than 250,000 children, teenagers and adults living with heart conditions across the country.

Funds raised through the campaign enable HeartKids to increase access to essential support services in hospitals, communities and regional areas.

This includes family support programs, teen camps, education days and funding the HeartKids Helpline, which offers guidance and connection for families navigating a heart disease diagnosis.

Heart mum and newly appointed HeartKids chief executive officer Sami Glastonbury said as a mother of three, with two children living with heart conditions, she knew how overwhelming a diagnosis can feel.

"HeartKids helps families feel seen and supported at a time when everything feels uncertain," she said.

"Families often spend long periods in hospital or travelling for care.

"The practical and emotional support HeartKids provides is something you can't put a price on.

"Giving eight dollars may seem like a small gesture, but when our generous community gives together the collective impact helps ensure families facing childhood-onset heart disease have support when it matters most."

For more information please visit: <https://www.heartkids.org.au/sweethearts-for-heartkids/>

Our environment matters at the Toodyay Herald...

news@toodyayherald.com.au

Young guns bat their way to glory

Bree Byfield

A FEW of Toodyay's finest young cricketers took part in the 2026 CSBP Junior Country Week held in Perth in January.

Congratulations to the following Toodyay cricketers who were selected to represent the Northam Cricket Association in the following age divisions:

16B – Parker Byfield, Winton Davey, Callum Fergusson;

14B – Jackson Byfield and Jack Eddy;

14C – Nicholas Thornton and Liam Ryall.

All Northam teams were extremely successful for the week with the 16B, 14B and 14C coming second, first and third respectively.

Fifteen-year-old Toodyay talent Parker Byfield notably made WA Cricket and WACA headlines producing one of the most dominant individual performances in Junior Country Week history.

Parker amassed 401 runs at an average of 200.5, including a half century (54 v Upper Great Southern) and three consecutive centuries (108 v Wheatbelt Warriors, 115 v Geraldton, 104 v Eastern Goldfields), all unbeaten.

Leading from the front as captain of the Northam Junior Cricket Association side, the right hander was equally influential with the ball, claiming nine wickets at an average of 7.44 to cap off a remarkable week of cricket.

Congratulations also to Toodyay cricketers Jack Eddy and Jackson Byfield for their further selection into the U14 'Wheatbelt'



Outstanding cricketer Parker Byfield.

development team to play in the WA Country Carnival in March.

Local coaches praised the depth of talent and resilience shown by the Northam Association players, noting the importance of country week in giving regional juniors exposure to high level competition and pathways into senior representative cricket.



Our talented 14B Premiers represented Toodyay at the 2026 CSBP Junior Country Week.

Karate club's community champs

Avon Valley Shotokan

Nat Kielbasa

THE NEW year may have only just begun but the atmosphere at Avon Valley Shotokan is electric and the year ahead is going to be an exhilarating one.

Firstly, enormous congratulations to Shihan Ken Bainbridge and senior karetka Shane McGlasson for their nominations during the Australia Day citizen of the year awards.

In Toodyay, Shane was nominated for the Young Citizen of the Year award.

He missed out this time, but we are very proud of his efforts both in the Toodyay community and within our club.

Shane is always willing to help out at every fundraising event and he is always enthusiastic about training.

Well done Shane, you absolute superstar.

Meanwhile in Northam, Shihan Bainbridge received the award for Senior Citizen of the Year for 34 years of dedication to the community by volunteering and teaching karate.

We are all absolutely thrilled to see you recognised for your tireless work over so many years.

Shihan, congratulations.

If you passed the youth hall in the evening these school holidays you probably saw students of all ages training, running laps and having an absolute blast.

These were students selected to travel to Japan this March for the 2026 USKU Karate tournament focusing on fitness and practising their katas.

Thank you to Sensei Kylie, Sensei Camden, Sensei Ashton and Sensei Lincoln.



Shihan Ken Bainbridge with his Senior Citizen of the Year nomination.

for volunteering your time to help our students prepare and to our students for their commitment and effort during the holidays.

Thank you also to the businesses and members of the community who have chosen to help sponsor our students.

With 30 students attending, this is the biggest team we have ever taken to compete in Japan.

We are immensely grateful for anyone who is able to support our students.

Another group of students recently travelled to New Zealand to attend seminars and events hosted by the Kapiti Karate Academy.

They met students from around the world and enjoyed the majestic sights New Zealand has to offer.

The seminars were led by one of the world's top karate instructors, Shihan Andre Bertel.

He challenged students to advance and refine their karate skills and made them very grateful for attending the fitness activities over the holidays.

Wednesday February 4 marked the start of the karate term.

Join us and sign up for the term.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you would like to give karate a go, ask questions, learn about upcoming events and the plans for the year or even want to come and watch, please join us.

As always, contact the team at avonvalleyshotokan@gmail.com for more information or simply drop your shoes by the door and come into the dojo for a chat.



Senior karetka Shane McGlasson with his nomination certificate for the Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year award.

Making waves: Toodyay launches its first ever triathlon at aquatic centre

Toodyay Triathlon Club

Kelly-Anne Murray, President

TOODYAY Triathlon Club is excited to welcome all competitors and spectators to the inaugural Toodyay Triathlon at Toodyay Aquatic Centre on Sunday 8 March.

Since forming the club in March 2025, club volunteers have worked enthusiastically to bring you Toodyay's first triathlon.

Swim laps in the crystal clear waters of the Toodyay pool, ride bitumen roads with picturesque views and run a mixture of trail and paved paths.

Pick your race distance and decide if you'll go it solo or form a team of two or three

people to complete the event.

There is a race distance to suit everyone, especially for children, young people and adults giving triathlon a go for the first time.

Try the fun course with a 100m swim, 2km bike and 1km run.

Shine on the short course with a 200m swim, 6km bike and 2km run.

Tackle the sprint course with a 400m swim, 12km bike and 4km run.

Triathlons aren't limited to elite athletes or marathon runners. It's for everyone who wants to challenge themselves and have fun doing it.

Whether you're looking to get active, meet new people or challenge yourself, there's a place for you in triathlon.

How will you Tri?

Will you be a competitor (first timers are very welcome), supporter, spectator or valued volunteer?

We need you all.

For event details and registrations visit www.toodyaytriathlonclub.com

Follow the Toodyay Triathlon Club on Facebook; call Kelly-Anne on 0406 585 716 for more information or email toodyaytriathlonclub@gmail.com



Members of Toodyay Triathlon Club.

Sports
Events/Results
Read it in the
Toodyay Herald
news@toodyayherald.com.au



tony maddox

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Happy belated New Year to all our wonderful clients — past and present.

Our team enjoyed a well-earned two-week break over Christmas and New Year, recharging before a busy start to 2026. While the office was closed, the boss kept the work phone handy to handle any emergency maintenance calls — thankfully, there were only a few.

Before wrapping up for the year, the team (partners included) got together for our Christmas celebration. A few competitive games of bowling revealed just how determined we all are, followed by a relaxed lunch and drinks at The Henley. It was a fantastic day and a great way to finish off the year.

We also have some exciting new advertising rolling out soon, including a little surprise that may just find its way into your letterbox. It's delicious, just for fun, and might become a household favourite — keep an eye on your letterbox!

In the office this month:

- **Breanna** was lucky enough to receive a jet ski for Christmas and wasted no time taking it to Cervantes for a test run.
- **Zonelle** was treated to a surprise weekend away in Busselton by her fiancé — very lucky indeed.
- **Jemma** spent a day cycling around Rottnest Island and is now enjoying some (*slightly forced*) time off after working far too hard.
- **Jess** is currently soaking up family time in Esperance and teasing the rest of us with breathtaking beach photos.
- Sam tackled a solo bike trip over the break, travelling to Kalgoorlie, through Esperance and finishing in Margaret River — and lived to tell the tale.
- **Tony** has been spending plenty of time in South Yunderup, enjoying days on the boat, crabbing and working on the house.

As for me, my fiancé surprised me with a mini staycation at Crown for the weekend, where we ate far too much food. It was a wonderful break, but there's nothing better than coming home to your fur babies and creature comforts.

Until next month,

Faith Kelly



THE TEAM

**Who are we? What do we do?
What can we do for you?**

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